

143. The optical waveguide device of claim 140, wherein the electric contacts comprise an interdigitated electrode configuration.

144. The optical waveguide device of claim 140, wherein the electric contacts comprise a comb-like electrode configuration.

145. The optical waveguide device of claim 135, wherein the plurality of grating elements extend transversely to a longitudinal direction of the waveguide layer.

146. The optical waveguide device of claim 135, wherein the plurality of grating elements is embedded in the waveguide layer.

147. The optical waveguide device of claim 135, wherein the waveguide layer is selected from the group consisting of an optical fiber, a microwave strip element, a silica-on-silicon (SOS) planar lightwave circuit (PLC), a silicon-on-silica PLC, a semiconductor amplifier, and a semiconductor laser.

REMARKS

With this preliminary amendment, all pending claims 1-115 have been canceled and new claims 116-147 are submitted to more clearly point out what the Applicants deem to be the subject matter for which protection is being sought. The new claims are directed to a configurable aperiodic grating device (claims 116-124); to a method for producing a configurable aperiodic grating device (claims 125-134); and to an optical waveguide device with a configurable aperiodic grating device (claims 135-147). Support for the new claims can be found on page 30, line 1, to page 31, line 6, of the specification, with reference to Figs. 12a, 12b, 13a, 13b, 14a, and 14b.

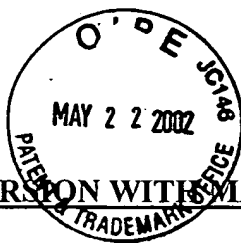
Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 951-7000 (Direct dial: (617) 951-7681).

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The Title of the application has been changed from:

~~IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO GRATINGS~~

to:

CONFIGURABLE APERIODIC GRATING DEVICE